

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-120 (cancelled).

Claims 121-124, 126-129, 131, 133, 137-150, 152-172, 174 and 175 (previously presented).

Claims 125, 130, 132, 134-136, 151 and 173 (currently amended).

Claims 121-175, as previously presented or currently amended are set forth on the following pages 3-12.

CLAIMS:

Claim 121 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being fitted in the vehicle so that said manure displacing means supports the vehicle while it is operating, orientation means that controls the vehicle so that it travels along a predetermined course, said course being determined by guidance means which comprise apertures in a floor over which the vehicle is traveling.

Claim 122 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being fitted in the vehicle so that said manure displacing means supports the vehicle while it is operating, and orientation means that controls the vehicle so that it travels along a predetermined course, said course being determined by guidance means that comprises reinforcement in a concrete floor over which the vehicle travels.

Claim 123 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being fitted in the vehicle so that said manure displacing means supports the vehicle while it is operating, and orientation means that controls the vehicle so that it travels along a predetermined course, said course being determined by guidance means which comprises an electrically conducting wire in which an electrical current is flowing.

Claim 124 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being fitted in the vehicle so that said manure displacing means supports the vehicle while it is operating, said steering unit comprising guidance means which includes following means for detecting and following a wall, the vehicle being substantially circular when viewed from above, said following means being disposed substantially proximate the vehicle's circumference.

Claim 125 (currently amended). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being fitted in the vehicle so that said manure displacing means supports the vehicle while it is operating, said steering unit comprising guidance means which comprises following means for detecting and following a wall, said following means substantially surrounding and at least in part being supported by said manure displacing means.

Claim 126 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being fitted in the vehicle so that said manure displacing means supports the vehicle while it is operating, said steering means comprising guidance means, said guidance means comprising following means for detecting and following a wall, said following means comprising a freely rotating substantially circular element.

Claim 127 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 126, wherein said circular element comprises a wheel.

Claim 128 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 126, wherein said circular element comprises a disc.

Claim 129 (previously presented). An unmanned non-submersible vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit arranged in the vehicle to propel the vehicle along a floor in an above liquid, air environment, a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being disposed in the vehicle so that said manure displacing means bears on said floor and provides major support for the vehicle while it is operating, and anti-bumping means which functions to prevent said manure displacing means from moving too far from said floor on which it is supported.

Claim 130 (currently amended). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 129, wherein said anti-bumping means comprises ing a bumper.

Claim 131 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 129, wherein said anti-bumping means comprises a bracket.

Claim 132 (currently amended). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing ~~unit~~ means being fitted to the vehicle so that said manure displacing means supports said vehicle while it is operating, and an anti-bumping means which functions to prevent said manure displacing means from moving too far from a floor by which it is supported, said anti-bumping means comprising an anti-bumping sensor for performing the function of detecting movements of said manure displacing means away from said floor which supports the vehicle, and coupling means coupling said anti-bumping means to said propelling unit.

Claim 133 (previously presented). An unmanned non-submersible vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit in the vehicle for propelling the vehicle in a non-liquid, air environment, and a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight.

Claim 134 (currently amended). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, first supporting means and second supporting means engaging an underlying floor and supporting said frame from said floor, said first supporting means and said second supporting means both being turnable relative to the underlying floor, said first supporting means and said second supporting means being located in a substantially vertical plane and being coupled to said propelling unit, the total weight of the vehicle being borne by said first supporting means, said second supporting means and said manure displacing means.

Claim 135 (currently amended). A vehicle in accordance with Claim [133,] 134, wherein said propelling unit includes said steering unit which consists of said first supporting means or said second supporting means or both and comprises at least one rotatable propelling member.

Claim 136 (currently amended). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which is disposed in an air environment, the vehicle comprising a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the ~~unit~~ vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support

for a major part of the vehicle's weight, said propelling unit comprising at least two independently driven propelling members.

Claim 137 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 136, wherein each of said propelling members comprises a wheel.

Claim 138 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing the manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, said propelling unit comprising at least two independently driven propelling members, each of said propelling members comprising a caterpillar track.

Claim 139 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, comprising orientation means for determining a relative position of the vehicle.

Claim 140 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, comprising orientation means that controls the vehicle so that it travels along a predetermined course.

Claim 141 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, orientation means that controls the vehicle so that it travels along a predetermined course, said course being determined by guidance means which comprise apertures in the floor over which the vehicle is traveling.

Claim 142 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and

providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, orientation means that controls the vehicle so that it travels along a predetermined course, said course being determined by guidance means which comprises reinforcement in a concrete floor over which the vehicle travels.

Claim 143 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, orientation means that controls the vehicle so that it travels along a predetermined course, said course being determined by guidance means which comprises an electrically conductive wire in which an electrical current is flowing.

Claim 144 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said steering unit comprises orientation means, said orientation means comprising a compass.

Claim 145 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said steering means comprises orientation means which includes a gyroscope.

Claim 146 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said steering unit comprises orientation means which includes an air level device.

Claim 147 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said steering unit comprises an orientation means which includes a clinometer.

Claim 148 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said steering unit comprises orientation means which includes an acceleratormeter.

Claim 149 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said steering unit comprises guidance means, said guidance means comprising following means for detecting and following a wall.

Claim 150 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said steering unit comprises guidance means which includes following means for following the edge of a cubicle.

Claim 151 (currently amended). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, said steering unit comprising guidance means, said guidance means comprising means for detecting and following a wall, the vehicle being substantially circular when viewed from above, said ~~following~~ means for detecting and following a wall being disposed substantially proximate the vehicle's circumference.

Claim 152 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 149, wherein said following means substantially surrounds and is at least in part supported by said manure displacing means.

Claim 153 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 149, wherein said following means comprises a freely rotating substantially circular element.

Claim 154 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 153, wherein said circular element comprises a wheel.

Claim 155 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 153, wherein said circular element comprises a disc.

Claim 156 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 153, wherein said circular element comprises a ring.

Claim 157 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, comprising protective facilities to protect the vehicle against obstacles.

Claim 158 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 157, wherein said protective facilities comprise a bumper.

Claim 159 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, the vehicle further comprising protective facilities to protect the vehicle against obstacles, said protective facilities comprising a sensor for detecting cows.

Claim 160 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 157, wherein said protective facilities comprise wall following means.

Claim 161 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 157, wherein said protective facilities comprise positioning means for determining the position of an obstacle relative to the vehicle.

Claim 162 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 161, wherein said positioning means comprises a clinometer.

Claim 163 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 161, wherein said positioning means comprises an accelerometer.

Claim 164 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 161, wherein said positioning means includes signal producing means that actuates said steering unit.

Claim 165 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said manure displacing means comprises a brush.

Claim 166 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said manure displacing means comprises a manure slide.

Claim 167 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 133, wherein said manure displacing means comprises a spraying unit.

Claim 168 (previously presented). An unmanned vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle, and a manure displacing means for displacing manure, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and providing support for a major part of the vehicle's weight, the vehicle further comprising anti-bumping means which functions to prevent said manure displacing means from moving too far from a floor by which it is supported.

Claim 169 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 168, wherein said anti-bumping means comprises a bumper.

Claim 170 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 168, wherein said anti-bumping means comprises a bracket.

Claim 171 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 168, wherein said anti-bumping means comprises an anti-bumping sensor for performing the function of detecting movements of said manure displacing means away from a floor which supports the vehicle, coupling means coupling said anti-bumping sensor to said propelling unit.

Claim 172 (previously presented). An unmanned non-submersible vehicle for displacing manure from an a non-submerged area wherein air breathing animals may be present which comprises a frame carrying a propelling unit and which is substantially entirely supported by two rotatable endless members and manure displacing means affixed to said vehicle forward of said rotatable endless members, said propelling unit not being connected to an external power source

during the vehicle's operations, the vehicle further comprising, orientation means, steering means and protective means coupled by coupling means to said propelling unit, whereby the vehicle's course of travel within said area is controlled by the vehicle and the vehicle is prevented from colliding with obstacles and animals in said area.

Claim 173 (currently amended). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 172, wherein said rotatable endless members comprise wheels and the center of gravity of said ~~wheels~~ vehicle is between said wheels and said manure displacing means.

Claim 174 (previously presented). An unmanned non-submersible vehicle for displacing manure which comprises a steering unit for steering the vehicle, a frame, a propelling unit for propelling the vehicle carried by said frame, and a manure displacing means for displacing the manure carried by said frame, said manure displacing means being non-rotatable and bearing the major part of the vehicle's weight while the vehicle is operating.

Claim 175 (previously presented). A vehicle in accordance with Claim 174, wherein said propelling unit is self contained in the vehicle and is not connected to an external power source while the vehicle is operating.